



[4310-G1-P]

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Bureau of Indian Affairs

[DR.5A211.IA000413]

Renewal of Agency Information Collection for Federal Acknowledgment of Indian Tribes

AGENCY: Bureau of Indian Affairs, Interior.

ACTION: Notice of request for comments.

SUMMARY: In compliance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, the Assistant Secretary – Indian Affairs is seeking comments on the renewal of Office of Management and Budget (OMB) approval for the collection of information for Federal Acknowledgment of Indian Tribes authorized by OMB Control Number 1076-0104. This information collection expires August 31, 2014.

DATE: Submit comments on or before [Insert date 60 days after date of publication in the FEDERAL REGISTER].

ADDRESSES: You may submit comments on the information collection to R. Lee Fleming, Director, Office of Federal Acknowledgment, Assistant Secretary – Indian Affairs, 1951 Constitution Avenue, NW., MS-34B SIB, Washington, DC 20240; facsimile: (202) 219-3008; email: Lee.Fleming@bia.gov.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: R. Lee Fleming, (202) 513-7650.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

I. Abstract

The Assistant Secretary - Indian Affairs (“Assistant Secretary”) held listening sessions in July and August 2013 to receive feedback on ways to improve the Department’s process for acknowledging an Indian tribe, as set forth in 25 CFR 83. The Assistant Secretary is currently in the process of revising the regulations governing the process for acknowledging an Indian tribe. The request for extension for this information collection request does not include the suggestions and feedback on the proposed regulations, but instead will allow current or potential petitioners to submit information required under the current regulations, pending the finalization and effective date of any revisions. For this reason, the Assistant Secretary is requesting an extension of the approval for the information collection conducted under 25 CFR 83.

The information collection is conducted under 25 CFR 83, to establish whether a petitioning group has the characteristics necessary to be acknowledged as an Indian tribe for purposes of federal law. Federal recognition initiates a government-to-government relationship with the United States and makes the group eligible to apply for benefits from the Federal Government. Approval for this collection expires August 31, 2014. Three forms are used as part of this information collection.

II. Request for Comments

The Assistant Secretary requests your comments on this collection concerning: (a) The necessity of this information collection for the proper performance of the functions of the agency, including whether the information will have practical utility; (b) The

accuracy of the agency's estimate of the burden (hours and cost) of the collection of information, including the validity of the methodology and assumptions used; (c) Ways we could enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and (d) Ways we could minimize the burden of the collection of the information on the respondents.

Please note that an agency may not conduct or sponsor, and an individual need not respond to, a collection of information unless it has a valid OMB Control Number.

It is our policy to make all comments available to the public for review at the location listed in the ADDRESSES section. Before including your address, phone number, e-mail address or other personal identifying information in your comment, you should be aware that your entire comment – including your personal identifying information – may be made publicly available at any time. While you can ask us in your comment to withhold your personal identifying information from public review, we cannot guarantee that we will be able to do so.

III. Data

OMB Control Number: 1076-0104.

Title: Documented Petitions for Federal Acknowledgment as an Indian Tribe, 25 CFR 83.

Brief Description of Collection: Submission of this information allows the Office of Federal Acknowledgment (OFA) to review petitions for Federal acknowledgment as an Indian tribe for purposes of federal law. The acknowledgment regulations at 25 CFR 83

contain seven mandatory criteria that unrecognized groups seeking Federal acknowledgment as Indian tribes must demonstrate that they meet. Information collected from petitioning groups under these regulations provides anthropological, genealogical and historical data used by the Assistant Secretary to determine whether a petitioning group has the characteristics necessary to be acknowledged as an Indian tribe for purposes of federal law. Respondents are not required to retain copies of the information submitted to OFA but will probably maintain copies for their own use; therefore, there is no recordkeeping requirement included in this information collection.

Type of Review: Extension without change of currently approved collection.

Respondents: Groups petitioning for Federal acknowledgment as Indian tribes.

Number of Respondents: 10 per year, on average.

Number of Responses: 10 per year, on average.

Frequency of Response: Once.

Estimated Time per Response: 2,075 hours.

Estimated Total Annual Hour Burden: 20,750 hours.

Dated: June 19, 2014

John Ashley
Acting Assistant Director for Information Resources

[FR Doc. 2014-14871 Filed 06/24/2014 at 8:45 am; Publication Date: 06/25/2014]